UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA ORLANDO DIVISION

ANNA ELIZABETH HUBER HOLCOMB,

Plaintiff,

v. Case No: 6:18-cv-511-Orl-18DCI

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

This cause comes before the Court for consideration without oral argument on the following motion:

MOTION: Unopposed Motion for Attorney's Fees Pursuant to 42 U.S.C.

§ 406(b)(1) (Doc. 25)

FILED: December 11, 2020

THEREON it is **Recommended** that the motion be **GRANTED**.

Plaintiff's counsel moves for an award of attorney fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 406(b)(1). Doc. 25 (the Motion); Doc. 26 (the Memorandum of Law). Plaintiff's counsel states that following the Court's reversal of the Commissioner's decision denying disability benefits and remand of the case for further administrative proceedings, Plaintiff was awarded retroactive benefits 25% of which is \$21,905.25. Doc. 26-1 at 2; *see* 42 U.S.C. § 406(b)(1) (recovery of such fees under this section may not exceed 25% of the total past-due benefits). But Plaintiff's counsel

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¹ This should be one document, not two. *See* Local Rule 3.01(a).

now seeks \$13,813.25 in attorney fees pursuant to § 406(b). Doc. 25. Plaintiff's counsel states

that the fees he seeks to collect includes a deduction of the attorney fees (\$8,092.00) previously

awarded under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). Doc. 26-1 at 3; see Jackson v. Comm'r

of Soc. Sec., 601 F.3d 1268, 1274 (11th Cir. 2010) (holding that counsel may effectuate the refund

of a smaller EAJA award by either refunding the amount awarded under the EAJA to the client or

deducting that amount from counsel's request for § 406(b) fees). Upon review, the undersigned

finds that Plaintiff's counsel's request for \$13,813.25 in attorney fees does not run afoul of the

limit imposed by § 406(b) and is reasonable under the circumstances of this case.

Accordingly, it is respectfully **RECOMMENDED** that the Motion (Doc. 25) be

GRANTED and Plaintiff's counsel be authorized to charge and collect from Plaintiff \$13,813.25

in attorney fees.

NOTICE TO PARTIES

A party has fourteen days from this date to file written objections to the Report and

Recommendation's factual findings and legal conclusions. A party's failure to file written

objections waives that party's right to challenge on appeal any unobjected-to factual finding or

legal conclusion the district judge adopts from the Report and Recommendation. See 11th Cir. R.

3-1.

Recommended in Orlando, Florida on December 14, 2020.

DANIEL C. IRICK

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

Copies furnished to:

Presiding District Judge Counsel of Record Unrepresented Party

Courtroom Deputy

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